



# Superfund Redevelopment Pilots

**Ruston Foundry  
Alexandria, LA**

EPA's Superfund Redevelopment Initiative (SRI) is a nationally coordinated effort to facilitate the return of Superfund sites to productive use by selecting response actions consistent with anticipated use. The SRI Pilots are intended to help local governments enhance their involvement in the Superfund decision-making process by assisting EPA in predicting future land uses for Superfund sites. Under the Pilot Program, EPA will provide up to \$100,000 in financial assistance and/or services to local governments for specified activities. Applicants are offered several types of program assistance, including funding through a cooperative agreement, access to facilitation services, and/or the availability of personnel under the Intergovernmental Personnel Act (IPA).

## BACKGROUND

EPA selected the City of Alexandria, Louisiana, for a Superfund Redevelopment Pilot. Alexandria is home to the Ruston Foundry Superfund site. The Ruston Foundry and Machine Shop operated on the property from 1908 until 1985, manufacturing and repairing articles of steel, iron, and other metals. As a result of these activities, the property and nearby homes may be contaminated with arsenic, copper, lead, and zinc. There are over 9,000 primarily minority residents, and an elementary school within one mile of the facility. EPA added the site to its list of hazardous waste sites needing cleanup in May 1999.

## OBJECTIVES

Alexandria plans to use Pilot funds to coordinate with community groups and conduct meetings to help determine reuse plans for the site. Some community members have already expressed an interest in having a recreation center built on the site, while others would like to convert the property into a park. The city will weigh community recommendations for site reuse against the costs and benefits to the city to acquire, develop, operate, and maintain the property. Based on this analysis, the city will develop a preliminary design and cost estimates for reusing the site. The city expects to complete its pilot project in 18 months.

## PILOT SNAPSHOT



**Applicant Name:** Alexandria, LA

**Site Name:** Ruston Foundry

**Date of Selection:** July 2000

**Anticipated Award:** Cooperative Agreement  
(\$59,200)

**Profile:** The community will reach consensus and create a reuse plan for the site.

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